

ANP 2/20/04

PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITION FOR THE THERAPY OF
VOIDING DYSFUNCTION

This appln is a 371 of PCT/JP99/03343 filed 6/23/99.
Technical Field

The present invention relates to a pharmaceutical agent and, more particularly, it relates to a therapeutic agent for voiding dysfunction associated with neurogenic bladder.

Background Art

Bladder and urethra which are called lower urinary tracts participate in a voiding function and the function is governed by the three types of nerves - sympathetic nerve, parasympathetic nerve and somatic nerve (pudendal nerve). Sympathetic nerve participates in accumulation of urine while parasympathetic nerve participates in urination and pudendal nerve is always active during accumulation of urine showing an action of closing the external urethra sphincter muscle (cf. *Rinsho to Kenkyu*, 71(5):1180, 1994).

There are various diseases which cause the urinary dysfunction and main ones are classified into (1) neurogenic bladder caused by cerebrospinal disease, cerebrovascular accident, diabetes mellitus, peripheral nervous disturbance, etc., (2) organic lower urinary tract obstruction such as benign prostatic hyperplasia and urethral stricture and (3) contraction insufficiency of bladder caused by str ss urinary